TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1992 -- Railroad freight traffic rose sharply during the week ended April 18 from the comparable week of 1991 when a one-day national railroad strike affected volume, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

"Carloadings were up 11.5 percent, ton-miles rose 13.9 percent and intermodal jumped 32.1 percent. Those increases might have been even greater had last week not included Good Friday, which is observed as a holiday on many railroads," said Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's economics and finance department.

"Still, railroad traffic trends are encouraging with total carloadings up 2.3 percent in spite of the fact that, in anticipation of the strike, some shippers had built up inventories in the previous weeks of 1991," Dr. Levine added.

During the week ended April 18, railroads reported originating 317,778 carloads, with traffic up 13.4 percent in the East and 9.5 percent in the West. Ton-miles were estimated at 19.7 billion. Intermodal volume totaled 120,522 trailers and containers.

Cumulative volume for the first 16 weeks of 1992 totaled 5,107,307 carloads, up 2.3 percent from 1991; 326.5 billion ton-miles, up 5.1 percent; and 1,958,643 trailers and containers, up 7.9 percent.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of rail carloadings and 97 percent of intermodal traffic.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 1992	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	24,582	20,870	17.8 %	28,313	-13.2 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,590	922	72.5	1,672	-4.9
Metallic Ores	18,225	16,801	8.5	17,313	5.3
Coal	118,191	111,446	6.1	120,074	-1.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,041	12,600	3.5	13,618	-4.2
Nonmetallic Minerals	8,538	7,274	17.4	9,353	-8.7
Grain Mill Products	9,533	9,186	3.8	10,294	-7.4
Food & Kindred Products	8,576	6,659	28.8	9,082	-5.6
Primary Forest Products	9,278	7,485	24.0	9,499	-2.3
Lumber & Wood Products	5,935	5,347	11.0	5,494	8.0
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,054	8,655	16.2	10,323	-2.6
Chemicals	29,102	25,243	15.3	30,649	-5.0
Petroleum Products	5,045	4,679	7.8	5,318	-5.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	9,401	8,352	12.6	9,441	-0.4
Coke	5,489	3,923	39.9	5,353	2.5
Metals & Products	10,238	7,695	33.0	9,462	8.2
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	16,162	14,353	12.6	18,948	-14.7
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,587	7,364	16.6	9,020	-4.8
All Other Carloads	6,211	6,263	-0.8	6,919	-10.2
Total	**317,778**	**285,117**	**11.5 %**	**330,145**	**-3.7 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 16 WEEKS ENDING APRIL 18, 1992 1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**317,778**	**285,117**	**11.5 %**	**5,107,307**	**4,991,808**	**2.3 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	58,200	44,096	32.0	959,244	938,313	2.2
Containers	62,322	47,134	32.2	999,399	877,287	13.9
Total	**120,522**	**91,230**	**32.1**	**1,958,643**	**1,815,600**	**7.9**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.7**	**17.3**	**13.9 %**	**326.5**	**310.8**	**5.1 %**

NOTES: Effective with Week 15, CSX Transportation figures include RFP. CSXT's traffic for prior weeks is the sum of CSXT's and RFP's traffic. Traffic interchanged between these roads prior to Week 15 has not been excluded from "received" traffic.

Carloadings are estimated for: Week 16, 1992 - GTW; Week 15, 1992 - GTW; Week 14, 1992 - GTW.

A national railroad strike occurred during Week 16, 1991.